

Greg's Fox E-Newsletter

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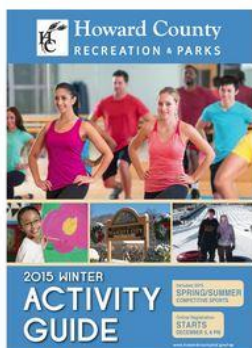


[BGE Helpful Winter Tips](#)

[Howard County Snow Plow Tracker](#)

Howard County Recreation & Parks

2015 Winter Activity Guide



GREETINGS

Happy New Year! As winter is fully upon us now, please read to the message below to assist in protecting your pipes. When we get snow, you can follow the snow tracker on my sidebar to get an idea when the plows will make it to your streets. Stay Warm.....

GREG



TIPS ON PREVENTING FROZEN PIPES

Water pipes located on or next to an outside wall are subjected to sub-freezing temperatures, as are pipes located in a garage or any other unheated building. To help combat this problem and reduce the probability of your pipes freezing, the County's Bureau of Utilities recommends the following:

- Wrap or insulate exposed pipes susceptible to low temperatures.
- Utilize other devices, such as heat tape, to help keep your pipes from freezing.
- Leave the hot and cold water dripping on nights when the temperature dips below 15°F.
- While some pipes, such as those located in cabinets, can be situated against an outside wall and while they may be insulated, the County suggests residents leave the cabinet doors open to allow the heat in the room to keep the pipes warm and from freezing.
- Turn off and drain outside hose bibs.
- Make sure they know where the main water cutoff valve is and how it works.
- Seal all air leaks that allow let an icy blast to reach their pipes.

Residents are further reminded if you lose water or experience sewage back-up in your home, call the County first to determine if there is a break in the water main or a blockage in the sewer main **beyond** your property. During regular business hours, residents are instructed to call the **Bureau of Utilities at 410-313-4900**. After hours and on the weekends, residents are to **call Central Dispatch at 410-313-2929** which will then notify a county utility worker.



We're on the Web!

[County Council](#)

Watch Us!

[Click Here](#)



COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, January 12

Monthly Meeting
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 14

Quarterly Meeting with Board of Education
C. Vernon Gray Room
8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 20

Legislative Public Hearing
Banneker Room
7:30 p.m.

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PASSPORT

Thinking of traveling? Is your passport up to date? Stop by Howard County Library in Glenwood where passport services are now available, **Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

There is a **\$25 fee** for each passport application, in addition to State Department fees. Passport photos are also available for \$15. Processing normally takes four to six weeks.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

Head over to the Robinson Nature Center this weekend, January 9 through January 11 for Star Storytelling and a free teacher training workshop.

Click [here](#) for a full listing of what's going on this weekend at the Robin Nature Center.

MERRY MULCH

Howard County government offers free Christmas tree recycling options in its Merry Mulch program. **Through January 16**, Christmas trees can be **dropped off from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** seven days a week.

For a complete listing of drop off sites please click [here](#).

BACKYARD BIRDING



Ever wonder about the birds you see in the winter? Bring the family to try the kid friendly binoculars and view the resident birds at Howard County Conservancy, Mt Pleasant location.

If the weather is nice, go for a stroll and talk about birds. Bird feeders will be full and hopefully drawing wonderful examples for all to see. The presentation starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Conservancy's Mt. Pleasant Farm. Families are welcome. **This event is free and mostly indoors, Saturday, January 10.**

For more information, please visit their [website](#).

RECYCLING ELECTRONICS

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services reminds residents to recycle electronics. Drop-off locations include the Alpha Ridge Landfill. **The facility is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays** and accepts televisions, computers, keyboards, printers, scanners, laptops, VCRs, radios and other electronics.



For more information on recycling, click [here](#).